BITS OF CHINESE LIFE.

WAYS OF SAN FRANCISCO CELESTIALS. THE CHINESE QUARTER OVERCHOWDED AND FULL OF FILTH-SQUALID CELLARS AND NEAT RES-

The ways of the Chinese in San Francisco are described below in a letter to THE TRIBUNE. The quarter occupied by them in that city is said to be overcrowded and full of filth and unpleasant odors. The squalid cellars of the buildings are occupied for business purposes, about one-half being converted into barber shops. The Chinese support six restaurants, which are described as clean and tidy.

A RAMBLE THROUGH CHINATOWN.

A RAMBLE THROUGH THE "QUARTER"-SCENES IN SQUALID CELLARS-LUNCH AT A FASHIONABLE RESTAURANT-INCIDENTS OF THE GREAT NEW YEAR'S FESTIVAL

[FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE SAN FRANCISCO, April 3 .- Transport the Chinese to any part of the globe and he takes his Lares and Penates with him; he remains a Chinese to the tips of his taper fingers. His dress, laws, prejudices are dear to him as life, or that symbol of Celestial citizenship, his pig-tail. He is as incapable of any radical change in habit as a mummy. He is precedent and tradition embalmed, yet stalking about the earth, resisting all aggression of progress with that apathy which wears out the most determined assaults. He is a more stubborn piece of antiquity than the perpetuates race features and he and race feeling with more than Mosaic persistence. He mixes with other peoples as oil mingles with water. Set him down in the Antipodes and he lives as though under the shadow of Pekin's walls. Hence it is that the Chinese quarter of San Fran cisco-which has been the cause of so much rant from Kearney, Kalloch and the other "sand-lot" Goths and Vandals-remains a miniature Canton set in the heart of a large American city. There is nothing like it in any other city of the United When you cross the threshold of the quarter you step back three centuries. From the me ment you enter it you feel the presence of another and an alien civilization, and a careful exploration of its inner recesses shows all the ugly features of Chinese life and character, with many of the customs and traits that would do credit to a higher

The quarter comprises a rectangular block, seven squares in length by two in breadth, near the business centre of San Francisco and only a few squares away from the finest residence portion of the city, where the railroad millionaires dwell in their sightly palaces. Upon the two main streets are many stores of brick or stone, with iron fronts, which present a substantial appearance. The majority of the houses, however, are old residences, built in early days, which have been so patched and transformed that the result is nothing more than a collection of huge rambling hovels. 'Cutting many squares into small sections are narrow, tortuous alleys, with an occasional cul-de-sac. In no portion of the crowded tenement quarters of New-York-not even in Bottle-alley or Mulberry or Rose-sts .- are the houses on so intimate terms as in these Chinese alleys. The upper floors jut out one above the other like an old-fashioued block-house, until at the roof one may almost clear the intervening space at a bound. From the slender slit of sky above only occasional arrows of sunlight fall upon the damp pavement. The intermediate stories swarm with tenants. The balconies under the windows are small hanging-gardens of sickly plants, feebly struggling to blossom in the fetid air. The floors of these balconies, the sides of the houses, the windows and doorwavs—all are black with the grime of years, all reck with the filth which never seems to disturb the Chinese eve or to be an offence. damp pavement. The intermediate stories seems to disturb the Chinese eye, or to be an offence In the Chinese nostril. The air is heavy and offensive, laden with the powerful odors of native tobacco-the same smell which taints the atmosphere of all the shops, and which clings to the Chinese, though he may bathe and make a complete change of garments. His person is redolent of it even when the lusty breezes of the Pacific have sported with his baggy trowsers and his loose blouse. When gathered with several of his kind in a small room, the air becomes saturated with the odor, and foreign olfactories quail before it.

SOME CELESTIAL INTERIORS.

An exterior view of a Chinese bouse gives no idea of the capacity of the interior. It is something like the Irish verger's church, "much bigger on the inside than without." One building, which has been recently monopolized by Chinese. The wide hail in the centre serves as a common en-trance. The parlors on each side have been cut up into ten rooms. Above, each spacious chamber has been subdivided into at least five rooms. A house that originally contained twelve rooms now boasts of seventy, each about half the size of a small hallbedroom in a narrow-chested city house, Many four-story houses have been converted into eightstory structures without any increase of stature, and each floor is split up into these closet-like rooms, nearly all ceiled with wood, which is black with grime and dirt.

The most characteristic scenes are found in the cellars, about one-half of which are occupied by barbershops. Every Celestial crown must be shaved at least once a week, and as a man cannot shave his own head, it will be seen that the barber plays an important part in the social economy. The shops are rudely fitted up with several common wooden chairs, a wash-stand and bowl, and a cheap mirror. The patron sits bolt upright in a chair and the barber-more garrulous even than the Caucasian "artist".-defily reduces his head to the blu-ish-white, shiny appearance that denotes a clean shave. Look into this cellar. The odor is bad, a mixture of Chinese and leather. Through the reek of tobacco smoke one catches the glimpse of the gleam of sewing machines in rapid motion, and of the haggard faces of the poor drudges who bend over their monotonous work sixteen hours every day. They are making coarse shoes and slippers Fifty men work in a room thirty feet by fifteen. There is little light, no sunshine, no fresh air. Day is scarcely to be distinguished from night, as the oil lamps burn at all hours. At midnight work is laid aside, and the tired laborers convert their benches into beds and lie down to troubled dreams At daybreak the whirring of the machines is the

signal of another day of this slavish toil.

AN HOUR IN A RESTAURANT. The Chinese are fond of the pleasures of the table. and the half dozen large restaurants in the quarter are liberally patronized. Their outward and visible sign is a highly ornamented balcony, hung with gayly painted lanterns. These balconies, ablaze with lights, form the most conspicuous feature of might life in Chinese streets. Entering at the street door of the largest restaurant, you find a shop stored with preserves, cakes and baked meats, ending at the rear in the bakery of the establishment. Here s grizzled old Chinese is moulding out a huge roll of dough, soon to be converted into the small dumplings filled with sweetments which form a part of every meal, and serve as a substitute for bread. The shining table, the burnished pans, the cavernous ovens-all look clean and tidy. Equally neat is the main kitchen, which is reached by passing up a steep flight of stairs. It is a revelation to those who have been educated in the delu-sion that rats and garbage form the staple of the Chinese cuisine. A large room is this kitchen, flanked on one side by a long range, and on the other by a table. Over the fire is stewing the invariable cauldron of pig's feet. Drop into a Chinese restaurant at any hour of the day or night, and you will find this dainty dish simmering on the coals. It is like the poor-they always have it with them. Lift the cover of another dish and you find the bean cakes, which bear too strong a resemblance in size and color to small cakes of cheap yellow soap o commend them to American palates. Another tin boiler contains round white dumplings, and still another egg cakes-both standard dishes for breakfust and lunch. The kitchen is connected directly with the second-class dining-room, fitted up with small, dingy tables and the usual Chinese chairs with wooden seats and no backs. Very feeble at-

tempts at decoration are made here and the place has the dreary look and musty smell of a cheap American eating-house.

Pass up still another stairway, steep and crooked, and the dining-room of the first class is reached-a spacious room, well lighted and tastefully orna nented. Here are three large round tables of old Chinese oak, to which long use has given the polish and deep ruby color of fine rosewood. beauties are hidden by no cloths. About each are placed a dozen chairs of the same substantial material. These tables are laid for dinner parties, which are to be held a few hours later. The place of each guest is marked by two fine ivory chop sticks, a curious porcelain wine glass and a little dish filled with ginger preserves. Along the balcony in front of this room is a row of small private apartments. One contains all the appliances for opium smoking, on a raised dais at one end, while about the room are some fine old chairs which would excite the envy of a collector of antique furniture. They are of Eastlake form, with plates of solid silver inserted in the arms, and the absence of all carving adds to their air of richness and solidity. The walls are hung with the ancient Chinese designs, in neutral tints, which were in vogue before the present highly colored pictures became fashionable. From the ceiling hangs a curious oil lamp, covered with a hexagonal glass shade adorned with

painted figures. Strings of bright-colored beads

arranged as pendants, increase the play of color

when the lamp is burning. CURIOSITIES OF THE CUISINE. A Chinese dinner is not to be recommended. It is too greasy, and that Mosaic abomination, the pig, not only appears frequently as pièce de résistance, and in sundry clever disguises, but contributes an unmistakable flavor to nearly every dish. It comes in the full pomp of the boar's head or in the more attractive form of the tender "roaster," the praises of whose "crackling" Elia has sung. Each restaurant uses several wagon loads of hogs daily. The animal is boiled, roasted, fried, frieasseed, minced; it forms the unsavory contents of innocent-looking dumplings and is disguised in a dozen deceptive entrées. Not even the daintiest of sweetmeats can remove its contaminating touch from the palate. Hence, for the curiosity-seeker who has a stomach not under perfect control, it is safer to try the lunch served at midday, in which few meats appear. garçon appears with two teacups and a saucer and a kettle of boiling water. In one cup he puts a pinch of dry tea, pours the water upon it covers it with the saucer. Your tea is then "drawing." Quickly he returns with chop-sticks and the regular lunch. The bill comprises three egg-cakes; two dumplings, with a species of Chinese strawberry mark on the top; three scraps of an unknown part of the pig; a dish of preserved watermelon and another of sweetmeats. The tea is now steeped, and placing your foreinger on the saucer you tilt the cup over and allow a thin stream of the fragrant beverage to escape into your saucer. You will win the good graces of the waiter if you shake your head when he asks if you want sugar. It never occurs to him that you would ruin the cup with milk. The tea, made of the tender shoots of the plant, tastes like unusually fine English breakfast, but with a more delicate flavor and aroma. By its aid you may eat sparingly of the dumplings, relish the egg cake in spite of the lard in which it is fried, enjoy the watermelon and devour the sweetmeats. Of the pork, the odor alone is ample; a long drawn smell would be equal to a surfeit. All these dainties are eaten with chop-sticks by the Chinese around you, but the use of these articles comes with nature, not art. It is idle to imitate the skill of your neighbors; you will drop all the food on the table. Better is it to accept the offering of an old-fashioned battered knife and fork, which the proprietor doubtless gathered in at an auction sale of antique household goods. There is no limit to the amount of tea that you may guzzle. The attentive waiter will fill your cup again and again with hot water, and, singular to relate, the teaberry mark on the top; three scraps of an unknown

NEW YEAR PESTIVITIES. To see "Chinatown" aright, one must visit it during the Chinese New Year-the [great national festival which occurs generally in the second week in February. For the poor Chinese the holiday lasts two days; for the wealthy it means a week or ten days of constant rejoicing and complete suspension of business. It means more to the Chinese than any feast-tide in the Christian calendar. It marks not only the beginning of the year, but the adjustment of all business accounts. Hapless, in deed, is the fate of the Chinaman the debit side of whose ledger at this time is "booming" while the credit side is stricken with hopeless depression. If his case is not too bad be makes a compromise with his creditors and starts afresh. But the Chinese have one very good doctrine, that frequent insolvused to be a private residence in early days and which | ency is a sign of dishonesty rather than of disaster. The Chinaman who liquidates yearly at a ruinous discount to his creditors is put on the black list. The dread of social and business estracism is a great bar to loose business methods. Debt is one of the unpardonable sins. To the singular mind of the Chinaman running in debt is a far more heinous offence than disembowelling your worst enemy or abandoning your best friend in case of sickness. It is an outeropping of the eminently practical mind in which spirituality finds no cranny for lodgment, and hard materialism rules, unswectened by sentiment, unlighted by any fugitive gleam of imagination or humor.

ment, and hard materialism rules, unsweetened by sentiment, unlighted by any fugitive gleam of imagination or humor.

This festival is heralded by great preparations and arouses an interest which the apaths tie Celestial seldom manifests in any mundane matter. For days before the great event the curbstone dealers in poultry and pork are overwhelmed with business. The door posts of many of the shops of rich merchants receive a fresh coat of vivid red paint, while the walls of the interior take on a sky-blue tint. Improvised sideboards are put up, spangled with fancy tinsel paper, and loaded with nuts, candica and cooked meats. Along the outer walls are hung rows of large lanterns, painted in all colors, and adorned with those curious figures which may represent the fauna of the Confucian age, but which have no living counterparts in the beasts of Celestial fields or the fishes in Celestial waters. Arranged in a corner of each shop is a store of fire crackers, for this noisy squib plays a great part in the rejoicings.

CHINATOWN IN HOLIDAY DRESS. The night before the great day is ushered in with rideous clanging of tom-toms, squeaking of onestringed fiddles and rattle of a thousand exploding firecrackers. This is the time to see the Chinese quarter thoroughly aroused. A walk through the main streets is not always safe, but the risk of a burned coat or a singed cycbrow is amply repaid by the many amusing spectacles seen on every side The shops and houses are all brilliantly lighted, while the rows of lanterns arranged at varying heights make the street at a distance look like a political torch-light procession in which the ward patriots have absorbed too much beer. On each side of the street long searlet ropes of firecrackers hang from the upper balconies, the blazing ends dangling over the sidewalk. One gets a kind of opéra bouffe "baptism of fire" in venturing through the street. Seated aloft, smoking his small pipe or a cigar, is the proprietor of the house, his eyes dancing with excitement as he watches the line of fire climbing slowly up his firecrackers. Occasionally he adds to the confused, whiplash reports of the small artillery by throwing into the street a bomb which explodes with an ear-splitting report. The payement is soon buried under the red fragments of fireerackers, among which the daring hoodlum ranges and secures any crackers which the fuse has failed to ignite. From the upper balconies of many houses, all adorned with beautiful lanterns and flowering plants which give them the appearance of hanging gardens, comes the sound of minstrelsy. The sing-song salutations of friends, the wailing cry of the venders of hot refreshments, the shrill sound of the fiddles, the clash of cymbals, and the hoarse roar of exploding pyrotechnies—all these make up a scene as essentially barbaric as one could desire.

On the following morning the visiting begins in earnest. The shops are decked out in the bravest atyle and likewise their owners. The poorest Chinaman scorns work at this time and gets good food at the houses of his wealthy friends. He wears his customary clothes, smartened, perhaps, by a new hat or jacket. The Chinese full dress, however, is worn only by the wealthier class, and it is seldom seen on the street except at this high feast. It differs widely from the ordinary costume in cut and material, being a far richer and more picturesque garb. The trousers are of damask silk, worked with flowers and other designs. They are of all colors, but the prettiest are of delicate fawn color or of Nile green—the identical tint which feminine fashion has lately added to her spectrum. Some trousers even may be seen made of fine chamois skin. All fit the leg closely and are wrapped tight about the ankle. Over the inner pajams of white linen or nanken is worn a long ulster-like coat, generally of thin skyblue cloth. It falls just below the knee, and on each side is slit open, so that it gives somewhat the appearance of those dresses worn by the shapely beauties of the variety stage, when one leg is counted upon to do spectacular daty. The sleeves of this coat extinguish the hands entirely, and when the of firecrackers, among which the daring hoodlung ranges and secures any crackers which the fuse has

usual salutations are made on the street—raising the hands quickly and joining them for an instant—the flapping of these loose sleeves gives a singular effect. Over this garment is worn a pajama or frock of rich cloth or satin, with sleeves full six inches shorter than those of the blue undercoat. This outer frock is short, reaching only to the hips. Some are thickly quilted but the majority are of fine blue or purple cloth. The head is surmounted by a skull cap of dark silk with a button of red or lemon color. This dress is universal; there is no variation except in tint. Many of the combinations of color are artistic and upon a graceful Chinaman the costume sits casily. The greater number, however, wear it with an air of constraint, and as they go lumbering along with their awkward rolling gait they look not unlike a band of sailors, masquerading in army overcoats half covered by pea-jackets. Each carries a fan, no matter what the state of the weather, and when not held in the hand it dangles from a belt at the side.

FEATURES OF THE FESTIVAL.

FEATURES OF THE FESTIVAL. On entering the door of house or store, the visitor salutes by bowing low and placing the hands together in front. Generally two elaborate bows are made. The compliments of the season are exchanged; a few sweetmeats are eaten, a sip of rice brandy taken, another low bow is made, and the visit is ended. On meeting in the streets salutations are exchanged by placing the hands together and wishing the usual "Kong he fat choy"-A happy New-Year greeting.

Naturally, few women are seen in the streets The wives of merchants are kept strictly seeluded, and only those women are abroad whose trade demands public display. These till several of the noisome little alleys which branch off from Washington and Jackson-sts. They stand at the doors of their small houses and laugh and chat with passersby. Their head-dress is far more elaborate than usual. The puffs and rolls of jet-black hair, the glossy bands pierced with gold arrows-all these everyday attractions are enhanced by red and yellow flowers arranged in curious designs on the back hair, while the smooth expanse of the front plaits is marked with broad bands of gilt. Their dress is gorgeous, its grouping of yellow and green making them look like tropical parroquets. In wandering through one of these Chinese alleys on last New Year's day, I was witness and sharer in a ludicrous incident. A remarkably pretty Chinese girl—with great purplish-black eyes brought out into high relief by their rings of ronge, and with her volugtuous lips tinged with the rosiest pearl of a Summer morning—lounged in the open door of one of these houses. Her plump arms were leaded with massive gold bracelets, while heavy ivory rings hung about her neat ankles. She was a superb figure of purely sensions Oriental beauty—a fit companion piece to Gérome's Moorish "Almeh." But distance was necessary to the proper artistic effect, as all illusion was spoiled when, in passing by, she grusped me by the shoulder, made a saucy move with her thick lips, and called out in a shrill voice, "What do ye soy?" The hoodlum shing phrase, which was imitated to perfection, she evidently regarded as the height of politeness.

Whatever may be said against the morals or the customs of the Chinese, they have one trait which would sit well on their detractors—an Eastern courtesy, as rare as it is beautiful in this country. This is subject to a heavy strain here, especially at the New Year's festival, but it never fails them. They are not insensible to the bitter hostility against them in this city, but they meet contempt with contempt, and take their revenge by spoiling the Egyptian in trade competition, and laying by his newly minted coins for an old age of comfort and philosophic case under the ancestral vine and figtree. incident. A remerkably pretty Chinese girl-with

THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCE. From The Loudon World.

From The London World.

As a hard-working, painstaking officer the Prince has no superior; and it was exemplified about five years ago, when the Chancellor decreed that all officers in the Prinssian army ought to learn Russian; and, hard as it is for a insidle-aget man to acquire a new language, and such a difficult one, the Prince applied himself to the task, and learned it. Yet his finperial Highness is not generally accredited with literary tastes; and hunting, as conducted at German Courts, cannot be exciting to a man who has served throughout such campaigns as those with Austria and France. He was formerly not unknown at the raming-tables in Homburg and Baden, and was generally fortunate at play; but since those establishments have been banished altogether from Germany, he has not even had that resource. Perhaps he finds the entertainment of the Ro. al visitors to Berin, with the stiff cliquette still preserved at that Court, somewhat irksome and monotonous, as it is reported that he is already tired of a ten years' peace. Whea the Shah padd his first visit to Beriin, and severely tried the patience of his hosts, the Prince at list made his escape to Babelsberg, but was pursued unceremouously by his wearisome guest, who, it was said, found hun sitting out in the garden by the side of his wife, smaking a short pipe, and without his coat. The Shah's visit was followed by one from the late King Victor Eunanel, who was almost as unappreciative as the semi-barrharons potentate of the monuments of Prussia's greatness was almost as unappreciative as the semi-barbarous potentiate of the monuments of Prussia's greatness and of the souvenirs of her philosopher-king. In fact, it was even stated that when the Italian mon-

Prince accompanied him in a glass state-curriage, with the windows down, and almost invisible to the outer world through the thick clouds of smoke from their eigars. It may be supposed that they did not find each other's company very congenial, as Victor Emanuel abruptly cut hes visit a day shorter than had been arranged, for no other reisson but his own pleasure, and declined to taste a morel of the sumptions repast placetibefore him on every occasion when he dined with the German Imperial family; but, having brought his Halian cooks to Berlin, he ate the soups and ragefits in private which they prepared in his own apartments. No wonder if the Prince giew tired of such visitors.

Prince Frederick William is a well-proportioned man of 5 feet 10, his most striking leature being his thick whiskers, beard and harr, and he hooks particularly well in the light-blue uniform of the Prinssian Imperial Guard. His eldest son, a very amiable-looking young man, in appearance takes after his mother's family; while the next arother, Prince Henry, resembles their father, and is reported to be of a more volatile, wayward disposition than his elder, who was a diligent student at college and is now an excellent officer. Besides the young Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, the Prince has three daughters evidence over her husband is well known, and who has closely superintended the education of her children to an extent for which she could have hardly had the find of the limb of the find already occupied a share of the ence over her husband is well known, and who has closely superintended the education of her children to an extent for which she could have hardly had the time if she had already occupied a share of the throne. Loyalty is not a characteristic of the people of Berlin; and Englishmen who are accustomed to see crowds wait patiently for hours to eatch a glimpse of even one of the younger members of the Royal Family are surprised at the little outward respect which the Germans show for their fine old Emperor or for his gallant son, who is good temper personified, and has a pleasing low or initiary samue for everybody. Even the children of the Importal Prince have been hissed in a part of Berlin which they had never visited before, merely on account of their royal parentage. Yel there is hardly a German who has not a good word for the Princess, owing to the admirable manner in which she fulfish her duties as a mother and a wife; and their praise would probably be warmer still were it not for a furking fear, often expressed, that some day she may lead her husband into wars for the benefit of Great Britain rather than of Germany; for the German middle class, feeling the weight of taxation and the consertation, have as great a horror of war as Mr. Brigst himself. Her economy, as setting a good example to the upper class, is also ingity spoken of; but it must be admirted that the Prussian Royal Family has seltom failed in that respect, and the present Emperor, brought up, as he was, in adversity, is a notable proof of it. His son's more lavish disposition used to be regarded as very contrary to the traditions of his house; yel his income is less than that of the youngest English Prince, and he has never been known to exceed it.

BEAUTIFYING THE PARKS.

The Park Commissioners hope that during the present season all present becompleted work in the parks will be finished, and that many new features will be added. There are at present several blils be fore the Legislature providing for expenditure on Riverside Park, on the small parks in Pourti-ave., between Sixiy-seventh and Ninety-sixth-sts., and on Morangside Park and the adjacent streets. The Park Commissioners expect to receiv soon \$25,000 from the city to complete Tompkins sugar Bota parks in Stnyvesant Square will be paved wit aspealt. The work of paving Washington Square, whic aspeaks. The work of paving Washington Square, which aspeaks. The work of paving Washington Square, which was mierrupted by frost last Authum, will now be continued. City Hall Park will be completed in few days. New pavement and fresh sod and earth will be put where the grass has become worn. Little needs to be done at the Baltery. It is now in fine condition. The seats of Union-square and fine condition. The seats of Union-square and repainted, and flower-beds have been laid out. Along the East River Park a sea wall will be built and the surface graded to the wait. In Central Park the Mait will be paved with Trinuida asphalt. Alt the principal walks will be relaid and the drives newly graveled. The buildings and cottages are to be repaired and rainted and 500 new benches will be provided. In the smaller parks new shrunbery and flowers will be added.

"Vory intellectual boy that of yours, Mr. Gogglys; I should like to examine his head." Proud father. "Johnny, what bumps have you got?" "Pregot yoe bump of catine, father, and the bump that Billy Hoykins gave me on the nose; but I'm layin' for him." - IN. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

THE NEW WASHINGTON.

CHANGES OF THE PAST FEW YEARS. THE BEST PAVED CITY IN AMERICA-A WINTER RE-SORT OF WEALTHY AND CULTURED PROPLE-NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND HANDSOME PRI-VATE RESIDENCES-THE MUSEUM, GEORGETOWN COLLEGE, AND THE NEW FXECUTIVE BUILDING. I FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.

Washington, May 1 .- To appreciate the prog-

ress Washington is making in all things belitting he character of a capital city, one must return here after an absence of a few years. A long absence is not necessary. One need not compare the Washington of to day with the straggling, dirty Southern town of the war period. The contrast with the place as it was at the beginning of Grant's administration is striking enough, and even the changes of the past three or four years are surprising. In the first place you observe that it is the best paved city in America, and the best in the world after Paris Everywhere the asphalt stretches away smooth and firm to horizons bounded by the lofty walls of a public building or the trees and shrubbery of a park. The vehicles roll along with scarcely a sound save the half-muffled clatter of the horses' feet. The pleasurable sense of motion without jar or poise experienced in driving over these perfect payements is one of the peculiar charms of life in Washington. You combine with the diverting sights of a city the enjoyment of a drive on the black, elastic, sunbaked roads of an Illinois prairie.

So many handsome new houses have been built of late that many sections of the city are scarcely recognizable. A new quarter has grown up around the residence of the British Minister. Connecticut and Vermont-aves., which used to be little more than names upon the map, are lined with stately houses. Massachusetts-ave., with its superb vista broken by the equestrian statues of Scott and Thomas, has a singularly fine effect. The little circles n the northwestern part of the city, which not long ago were browsing grounds for goats and geese, are ow adorned with shrubs and flowers and snrrounded by handsome houses. In no city are there such advantages for the free play of architectural genius. The street system is so peculiar-there are co many corners, angles, terraces and segments of circles to build upon-that the opportuni-ties for novel and striking effects are now for large detached houses is a sort of Norman chatean type. The material is dark red brick with sandstone frimmings, and a round tower with a black sugar-loaf cap is the most salient feature. There s, however, a good deal of variety of style. One finds reminiscences of Elizabethan manor houses, Venetian palaces, Swiss chalets and Rhine castles in curious juxtaposition. To a severe taste the effeet is no doubt displeasing, but all this kaleidoscopic jumble of architectural ideas so faithfully represents the omnivorous cosmopolitan taste of the American people that its appropriateness for their capital city cannot be questioned.

WASHINGTON'S PECULIAR ATTRACTIONS. The costly houses that have recently been built and are now building in such numbers are evidences of the attractiveness of Washington to peo ple of wealth, culture and leisure. In whatever line the tastes of such people may run they find peculiar gratification here. If they have a fondness for scientific study, here are the Smithsonian collections, the Medical Museum, the Observatory, the Hydrographic Bureau, the Bureau of Statistics : if for literature, here is the Congressional Labrary; if for art, here is the Corcoran Gallery, the best public gallery in America; if for the results of travel, hither come the explorers from all parts of the continent; if for polities, here are the men whose talents have distinguished them from the masses, and raised them to high places in the Government; if only for society, it is the most sociable place in the country. Nowhere is there such breadth, freedom, individuality, vivacity and cordulate in social intercourse. In no other city is there such a large proportion of the population with lessure and disposition for making themselves agreeable, and for finding out what there is agreeable in other people, and no other city so draws upon the whole country for the material for its social life. More and more are these attractions becoming known, and every year brings a teinforcement from Northern cities to the best classes of Washington society, of people who build houses here because they find it the most delightful place for a Winter and Spring residence.

THE NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS. rich, whose education had been much begieveled, was asked if he should like to drive to Poisdam, it was found that he had never even heard of Frederick the Great, and the only signt he wished to see in Berlin was the Zoological Gardens. This friendly the Third Time Prince accompanied him in a glass state-carriage, with the windows down, and aimost mysside. Grounds is nearly completed. The first surgestion Government Building at the Centennial was advoented. The officers who made that collection took attractions of Washington. The building is well adapted for its purposes, having ample light and with gay bands of tiles, its lofty dome and many towers give it a World's Fair look, and recall the gay architecture of the Centennial structures. No why was it made to commit the sin of incongruity ov spreading itself out in the shadow of the Gothic towers of the Smithsonian Institution? That state ly, dignified ediffice, the finest building of its type in this country, is insulted by the tawdry modern adornments of its new neighbor, and the Museum, which would be admired as a handsome specimen of decorative architecture if it stood alone, is made to look cheap and pretentions by the proximity of the lofty towers, rose windows and distribed red sandstone walls of the Institution. There was plenty of room on the many public reservations of the city, without crowding these two diverse and discordant structures so close together.

The former habitue of Washington, who returns after a few years' absence, will notice with a feeling of regret that the old War Department has been pulled down to make room for one of the façades of the huge executive building, usually called the Scate Department, because that branch of the Government was its first tenant. He will wender what has become of the simp of the tree cut down by bullets on a Virginia battle-field, which used to stand under the partico ly, dignified edifice, the finest building of its type

stump of the tree cut down by bullets on a Virginia battle-field, which used to stand under the portice of the old building, and whether the little room where Stanton directed the war was preserved on canyas for instory before the demolition. The portice, he will learn, has been transferred to Arlington, and forms an arch over one of the entrance gairs to the National Cemetery. I hardly know whether to admire the new building or not. Stately it inspectionably is, for it quite dwarfs the Treasury and dominates half the city; and the effort to make granute lend itself to the graceful forms of Remissance architecture has been unexpectedly successful. But the building is so enormous that it iacks expression, and the eye wanders over it without heing arrested by any central feature, where the main architectural idea of the structure fludsits culminating and definite embodiment.

the main areaset at all central relate, where the main areaset cut and definite embodiment.

The new building for the Bureau of Printing and Eneraving, down on the Monament Lot, has rather a factory look, but is on the whole not an unattractive object in the landscape when seen from the White House windows or the Treasury portice. Everybody must admire the new Georgetown College building, which can be plantly seen from many points in Washington. Solidity and grace are expressed by its gray Innestone walls, and it wears a crown of heavily in the bandsomest nediawal tower 1 know of. Mr. Spofford has not yet persuaded Congress to make an appropriation for the much-needed building so long contemplated for the Congressional Library. I fear he sometimes loses patience as he stumbles over the piles of volumes that cumber the floor of the old library, or burrows in the basement of the Capitol for storage space to hold the books for which he has ne shelf room, but I hope he will persevere, and will live to see the reward of his efforts which he has be shelf room, but I hope he will persevere, and will live to see the reward of his efforts in a noble structure worthy to hold the largest and best collection of books on the American Continent—a structure that will be a fitting monument to American literature, and at the same time a memorial of the wisest and most faithful and indefatigable librarian this country has ever possessed. OUTSIDE AND INSIDE THE CAPITOL.

The Capitol grounds begin to justify Mr. Olm sted's plans, and to show that the surroundings of a great building should be adapted to display its beauty like the setting of a jewel, rather than to half conceal them. Still I sometimes think regretfully of the avenues of noble maples and sycamores that went down before the axe of the landscape gardener, and in these April days I miss the old star and crescent-shaped flower beds full of daffodillies, pansies and hyacinths that have given place to his broad sweeps of greensward. Within the Capitol the changes of recent years are not such us please one who remembars the days of Republi-

cap ascendancy in Congress, I look in vain for many genial and friendly faces, and find no compenmany genial and friendly faces, and find no compensatory promise of pleasant acquaintance in the hard coarse features that have come in their stend. The doorkeepers and other petty officials are frequently ignorant and rarely polite. There are many new and annoying restrictions which are anything but Democratic, although originating with the Democratic caucus. The galleries are divided off with sections for different classes of people. In fact there is a sort of gallery hierarchy. A section is reserved for the President and his Cabinet, who, of course, never attend: another there is a sort of gallery hererchy. A second is reserved for the President and his Cabinet, who, of course, never attend; another for the diplomatic corps, whose members are never seen there; another for the families and particular friends of members; still another for their not so particular friends; and finally the general public gets about half the gallery space, in two divisions, for the two sexes. The ladies' reception-room of the House has been appropriated for a members' lonnging-room, and ladies who come to call on their representative or "see their influence" are obliged to sit in the corridor like beggars at the king's gate. No eards can be sent in to Senators until half-past I o'clock, an hour and a half after the session begins, and then only by a single door. Orders for admission to the privileged galleries must be signed by a Senator, and the people who present them are rudely detained until the doorkeeper examines the date to see if they are not cheating him with an old order.

ammes the date to see if they are not cheating him with an old order.

It would take a long letter to do justice to the subject of the deterioration in the general character of Congress for industry, intelligence and good behavior since the Democrats came into power. A Western acquaintance of mine, who used to know Washington well in former times, concluded to run for Congress in his district this year, and had good reason to expect a nomination and an election. He came on a month ago to take a look at the House, which he had not seen for many years. The more he saw of it the less he liked it. Finally he made up his mind that he could not endure to sit for two years in such bad company, and the other day he wrote his friends at home that he did not want the nomination and would not take it.

E. V. S. would not take it.

XLVITH CONGRESS-IID SESSION.

REGULAR REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. THE UTE AND THE POST OFFICE BILLS REPORTED-DEBATE ON THE INTERNAL REVENUE BILL-AN EXPLANATION FROM MR. GARFIELD.

HOUSE WASHINGTON, May 1, 1880. In the House to-day, the bill to accept and ratity the agreement submitted by the confederated Ute Indians, for the sale of their reservation in Colordo, was reported, printed and recommitted.

The bill fixing the salary of the Commissioner of Pen sions at \$5,000 was reported and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The Post Office Appropriation bill was reported and ordered printed and recommitted. The bill recommends an appropriation of \$38,600,000.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole or the bill amending the Internal Revenue law, the pending amendment being that providing that producers shall be allowed, without payment of tax, to sell leaf topacco to other than licensed dealers. Ruled out on a Mr. KNOTT (Dem., Kv.) offered an amendment provid

ing that the law which requires a tax of \$50 on each still manufactured shall not apply to distillers who man-ufacture for their own use wooden stills. Adopted. Some amendments were offered and rejected, after which the committee rose and reported the bill and amendments to the House.

Mr. BUITERWORTH (Dem., Ohio) supported the bill. Mr. CONGER (Rep., Mich.) opposed the bill, which was simply to give \$200,000 to the whiskey interest. Mr. CARLISLE (Dem., Ky.), who had coarge of the ill, here yielded the floor to Mr. GARFIELD (Rep., Ohio), who said that he wished to ead the attention of

Ohio), who said that he wished to eal the attention of the House and the country to a matter which related closely to the work of the Committee on Ways and Means, especially to humself, and which was a specimen of the way in which public opinion was omanfactured. I hold in may hand, he said, a paper, about forty copies of which have come to me in the last five of six days, and I will read the heading of it:

To the Editor: We are requested by the publishers of several New-York dailies, as well as by manufacturers of paper, to enclose to you the paragraph written below. Your own interests will detace what further use, if any you will make of the suggestion it contains. We have no particular interest, except to serve our friends, the publishers of newspapers in this and other cities.

New-York, April 21, 1880. G. P. ROWELL.

Below is a little card, the substace of which is that the Committee card, the substace of preventing the people from having reading matter cases of y preventing any reduction in, or any action of the House on the subject of reducing the cost of printing paper, and which concludes with the statement that accomplished in a few days. Without voicining for the neutracy, or without pretending to know anything about it, the firm sent out to 9,000 newspapers this charge against the Committee on Ways and Means, joining it with the charge that I hole, as it were, the casting vote in the Committee, and that I, by my single vote, prevent the action of the committee and of this House. Probaby 5,000 newspapers have come to the containing this editorial, but not the card transmitting it. If the people of the United States can be led to believe that a minority of five in a committee of the received Las one of the minority of Rey, hold the casting vote in that committee, and for six to right weeks, have prevented a resort on that subject—of course that Is an item of news but the committee knows that the statement in that creating absoniely ladse, without one touch of foundation, say for myself flutteemore, that at a Mr. FROST (Dom., Mo.)-Is the gentieman in favor o

Mr. GARFIELD-I cannot tell what has taken place Mr. GARFIELD—I cannot tell what has taken place in the committee. The protected articles on the tariff list average about 45 per ceat ad valorem. The duty on caper purp and printing paper is 20 per cent—less that one-half the average of all the protected articles. But, because this brings but a small revenue, I am, for one, wining to reduce it just as low as it can be reduced without absolutely desiroring and cripping. American industries, Below t at I am not willing to go for any amount of clamor from any part of the world.

The discussion here closed, and the vots being taken non Mr. Conget's amount of providing that in case of non payment of the tax on any distilled sprits within one year from the date of the original warehousing bond, interest small meerno on such tax at the rate of 5

on Mr. Conger amount of the tax on any distilled spirits within one year from the date of the original warehousing bond, interest soul necrue on such tax at the rate of 5 per cent, it was refected—year, 58; nays, 101.

The bull then went over without fluid action, and the House, at 4:45 p. m., adjourned.

THE METHODIST GENERAL CONFERENCE.

BISHOP WILKY WELCOMES THE DELEGATES-THE NEW GENERATION WELL REPRESENTED. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

CINCINNATI, May 1 .- The twenty-third General Conference (quadrennial) of the Methodist Episcopal Caurch assembled in this city today. The session lasted three hours and attracted a large number of spectators. The Conference is composed of a younger class of men than have been sent to previous Conferences. The old men of the denomination who have been prominent in its counsels for a genera tion are disappearing, and their places are being taken whose careers is still before them. " Methodism is improving," said a preacher of high standing to-day as he looked over the body of delegates and recognized in the new men a new force in the denomination which is goon to be strongly felt.
In his address of welcome Bishop Wiley, whose

residence is in this city, speaks of Cincinnati as " the birthplace of German Methodism, whose venerable ather is still among us." The allusion to the Rev. Dr. Nast, the Editor of Christian Apotogist, who, should it be decided that the Germans must be represented in the College of Bishops, will beyond a doubt be selected for the high office. The resolutions presented by a committee appointed by the last Conference to devise a plan for expediting the work of the Conference were tabled after a short discussion. The resolutions were stremuously opposed by Dr. Buckley, on the ground that the younger men in the Conference not being ac-quainted with its methods will not be able to vote ineligently if the work is all done by the committees. The plan to be followed in the organization of the committees will probably not be agreed upon without great deal of debate, and two or three days may elaps

great deal of debate, and two or three days may elapse before they are appointed. The Rev. G. W. Woodruff. D. D., of New-York East Conference and secretary of the last two Conferences, called the roll at the request of Bishop Simpson, who then took the chair. Three hundred and fifty-three delegates answered to their names.

On motion of Dr. Curry, Dr. Woodruff was unanimously elected secretary, and empowered to appoint his assistants. He named the Rev. D. S. Monroe, of Central Pennsylvania Conference; Isano S. Bingham, of the Northern New-York; George Mathern, of the Northern Ohio; James R. Magee, of the New-England; H. B. Heacock, of the California, and Lewis E. Daylow, of the Des Moines.

A general press dispatch says the opening evotior at services were conducted by Bishop foster, Bishop Merrill, the Rev, Dr. Foster. Trimble. Bishop Andrews, Peck, and the Rev. Dr. L.S. Bingham. The address of reck, and the Rev. Dr. I. S. Bingham. The address of welcome was responded to by Bishop Simpson. The re-port of the Committee on the Organization of Commit-tees and Rules was presented. Dr. Perrine submitted a substitute. Both were tabled after discussion. The only rule adopted was one limiting speeches in debate to fir-teen minutes each. After the selection of seats the Con-ference adjourned.

A MANUFACTORY DESTROYED.

BRIDGEWATER, Mass., May 1 .- Fire this orning destroyed a building owned by Levi Walker and Columbus Harlow. Loss, \$10,000; insurance, \$3.500. It was occupied by C. C. Harlow & Co., machinists, whose loss is \$12,000; insurance, \$4,000, and by McGluthen Brothers, jack manufacturers, who lose \$7,000—partially insured.

POLITICAL NEWS.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY OFFICIALS. SUBSTITUTE FOR THE CHARTER BILL-PROPOSES

BOARD OF APPOINTMENT-CHARGES OF BRIBERY. The long delay over the passage of the charter for this city by the Legislature, it is understood will be ended by the substitution of a bill, giving the power to fill vacancies to a Board to consist of the May-or, Controller, President of the Board of Aldermen, and President of the Board of Police Commissioners. If the bill should become law, and, as is likely, Presidents Mon ris, of the Board of Aldermen, and French, of the Police Board, agree with Controller Kelly, the large number of offices now filled by officials whose terms have expired and who are holding over, a list of which was recently given in The TRIBUNE, can be filled without much delay. in fact it would only be necessary to agree on the distribution of the offices, the Mayor, as the fourth member of the Board, being powerless to prevent it.

Two reasons are assigned by the Republicans who profess to know-whereof they speak for the passage of this proposed bill. There is not time sufficient to prepare a new charter and carry it through both houses of the Legislature, as it is generally agreed that an adjournment is fixed for the 20th inst.; and, should the Legisla

tion in this city would be certain to obtain control of the Board of Aldermen.

Those who are in a position to know confirm the statement recently made infine Induce four Tammany and two Republican Aldermen to join the Irving Hall members and confirm the various nominees who may be sent in during the year. The names of the Aldermen who are to be nurchased, and whose consent, it is alleged, has already been obtained, are freely mentioned, as well as those who are to be named for the more important positions.

It is expected that strong efforts will be made to defeat the proposed bill. The Republicans feel, however, that it is their only means of preserving their proportion of the Police Commission, and thereby secure their half of the election officials. This will be the strong argument used in the Republican caucus when the bill subrought up for consideration, and the friends of the measure profess to believe that it is unanswerable. They say that the stake in the matter of the offices to be filled is so great that if the Lexistature adjourns without doing anything to provent it, the Irving Hall Aldermen and their purchased allies will fill the vacancles that now exist within ten days afterward.

A COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION.

A COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION. At the meeting of the Tammany Committee on Organ ization last evening, J. M. Kelly offered the following

ization last evening, J. M. Kelly offered the following presmple and resolutions, which were adopted:

Whereas, It is a subject of current rumor that three, well-known persons, two of whom now hold high office under the City Government, and one of whom recently held an office of emolument, have raised a large sum of money and placed it subject to the disposal of a sum whose career in the old Runz Board of Supervisors was signalized by the grossest corruption, in voting to himself and others \$25,000,000 of the peoples' money without consideration, and

himself and others \$28,000,000 of the peoples' money without consideration, and Whereas, it is openly asserted that the object for which said money is proposed to be used, is to endeavor to corruptly purchase the votes of certain members of the Board of Aldermen in favor of the condination of the nominees of Mayor Cooper, without regard to their qualifications, and to do such other overt acts as the said corrupt ex-official may direct or advise; and,

Whereas, It is proper that the whole truth of these assertions should be carefully inquired into, in order that the corrupt scheme of the persons above alluded to may be prevented, and with the view that all those concerned in it be visited by the severest punishment which the law allows, and to be publicly disgraced in the eyes of their several constituences, and the estimation of all good citizens if their guilt can be proven. Now, therefore, be it

in the cycs of their several constituences, and the estimation of all good citizens if their guilt can be proven.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved. That a committee of five be appointed by
the Chair to fully investigate the truth of these matters,
and that they be empowered to take all measures necessary to the frustration of the corrupt scheme
above referred to, as well as the punishment of all
those engaged therein. The resolution was passed
unanimously, and the chairman appointed as such committee John Kreity, H. I. Purroy, Poice Commissioner
Sidney P. Nichols, Fire Commissioner John J. Gorman,
and Judge M. Quado.

General Spinola offered a resolution that the
committee, as the representatives of the reguar Democracy of the City and County of
New York, fully and emphatically indorse and ascept as their own the sentiments promulgated by John
Keily at the meeting of the Tammany Hall General
Committee held on April 23, 1880, and the action of the
Syracuse Convention.

MEETING OF COLORED REPUBLICANS. A meeting of the Colored Republicans' Central Committee was held last evening at No. 129 West Twenty-sixth-st., with William Freeman in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read, the right of the chairman to occupy the chair was questioned. It was contended that a secretary only had been so far elected, and that it was the duty of the meeting to proceed at once to the election of a permanent chairman and other officers. The question being put to vote James B. Lee was elected chairman, and J. G. Freeman secretary. The previous resolutions were then read and adopted, after which John D. Quarles, of Washread and adopted, after which John D. Quarles, of Washington, addressed the meeting. He said that the impending election was the most important one that had been held for twenty '...'s, because of the evenly balanced condition of the t.' parties. Every vote cast in the November election could count. Ten thousand votes in New-York, nay, even five thousand, might determine the political complexion of the National Government for the next four years, and it was therefore necessary to prepare themselves so that the party should not suffer deleat in the great election. The first requisite for success was burnous and the subordination of all private interests to the one great purpose before them. interests to the one great purpose before the

ANTI-GRANT DELEGATES TO CHICAGO. A meeting of the VIth Assembly District Anti-Third-Third Republican Campaign Ciub, of which William O. Cloves is president, Robert R. Boyne secrebeadquarters, No. 451 Grand-st., last evening. The following named persons were appointed as delegates to the Chicago Convention: Professor Felix Adler, Andrew Yilliam O. Cloyes, Henry S. Jennings and Joremiah J. Seully. The Committee on Admissions is Henry S. Jennings, Robert R. Bowne and Charles W. Little. There are about 175 memoers in this association.

ALABAMA REPUBLICANS DIVIDED.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 1 .- The Republeans of two of the city precincts, in meetings to-day to select delegates to the County Convention, resolved one unanimously against the third term the other for Grant by a bare majority. The counties which have held meetings so far are greatly divided in their pref-

> MARYLAND BLAINE DELEGATES. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON May 1 .- The Republicans of Montgomery County, Maryland, elected four Blaine lelegates to the State Convention to-day.

BLAINE DELEGATES FROM TRENTON. TRENTON, N. J., May 1 .- After a hard fight newcon the Grant and Blaine men the triends of Blaine carried all the city delegates to the State Convention.

ATTEMPTING MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A TRAGEDY IN A BROOKLYN BOARDING-HOUSE. The boarding-house of Mrs. Margaret Taggert. No. 180 Second-st., Brooklyn, E. D., was the scene vesterday afternoon of what may prove a murder. and also of an attempt at suicide. Among the boarders in the house was Mrs. Nellie Stokes, age nineteen, who has been married about a year, her husband being George Stokes, a lithographer. Between two and three months ago Mrs. Stokes quarretted with her husband, whom she left, and went to live with Mrs. Taggert, with whom she was acquainted. A young man

whom she was acquainted. A young man named Edward Kennedy became a boarder in the house about three weeks ago. After making the acquaintance of Mrs. Stokes, who was a woman of attractive appearance, he forced his attentions upon her, although she gave him no encouragement. After he had known her about a week he became desperate as her coldness, and attempted to take his life. He succeeded in inflicting a wound in his side with a pistol, from which he recovered after being contined in the Eastern District Hospital for a week.

After his release from the hospital Kennedy renewed his attentions to Mrs. Stokes, but het with no success. Yesterday afternoon the two met in the parlor of the boarding-house, but what passed between them is not known, as no one else was present. The other members of the family, who were down statrs, were startled at 5:50 clock by hearing the report of a pistol in the parlor. They rushed up stairs, and tound Mrs. Stokes lying on the door, the blood flowing from a wound in her left temple. Kennedy was stooping o. er her, and attempting to wise the blood from her lace. A moment later, while the attention of all was concentrated on the wounded woman, Stokes put the pistol, which was a Smith & Wesson seven-shooter, to his own head and fired. The police were hurriedly informed of the occurrence, the ambulances was summoned, and Mrs. Stokes, whowas found to be scriously injured, was con-eyed to the Eastern District Hospital. The examination there showed that the shot had penetrated her brain, and that her recovery was impossible. At a late hour last night she was still alive, but unconscious.

Kennedy inflice ed only a slight wound on himself in the right temple. It was dressed at the Fourthst. Police Station by Dr. Malone, and Kennedy remained there during the night. He is twenty-two years of age, and is employed on a tug boat of Hay-ermeyer & Elder, sugar refiners. He is regarded as of weak mind, and is believed to be irresponsible for his conduct.

A little fellow of five going along the street with a dinner-pail is stopped by a kind-searce gratie-map, who says: "Where are you going, my fittle man?" "To school." "And what do you 46 at school I you learn to read!" "No." "To write!" "No." "To count?" "No." "What do you do!" "I wais for school to let out."—(Roffalo Express.